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Airborne Activity at Riga, USSR (S)

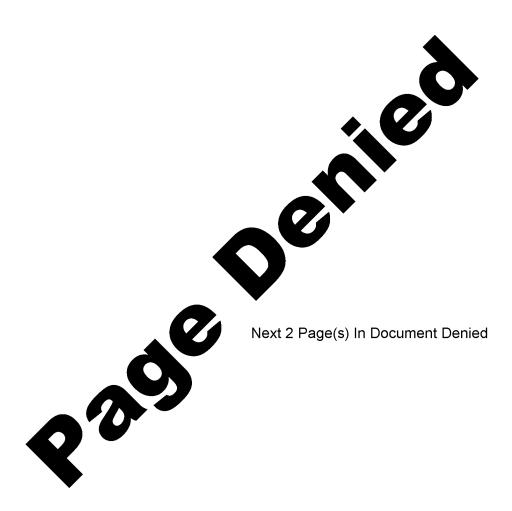
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Dreviously unobserved. No airborne-related training activity or deployment has been reported breviously in the Riga area.  2. (S/D) At least one BMD-equipped airborne regiment was bivouacked at 57-11-00N 024-12-41E (Figure 1). Equipment included five confirmed and at least six probable new variant BMD birborne amphibious combat vehicles, ten BMD M-1979, 37 GAZ-66 trucks, 12 trucks, four trailers, and 116 tents (two large, seven medium, and 107 squad-size). The new BMD variant (Figure 2) consisted of a BMD M-1979 chassis with a center-mounted turret. Two parallel hatches were centered on the turret which differs from the one-hatch arrangement observed on the standard BMD and from the BMD M-1979 which has no turret. Although the vehicle's main armament could not be determined, at appeared to be similar to the 73mm gun mounted on the standard BMD.  3. (S/D) Divisional and regimental artillery assets were immediately north of the regimental privouac. At least three MRL M-1979 multiple rocket launchers, fifteen 122mm howitzers D-30, and twelve 85mm auxiliary propelled antitank guns were deployed in battery. At least 26 GAZ-66 trucks were also in this area. The divisional assault gun battalion with support elements appeared to be entraining at a rail-loading ramp at the west edge of the training area at 57-10-49N 024-19-17E (Figure 3). The train, oriented northeast, consisted of 23 flatcars carrying 18 ASU-85 assault guns, one BMD M-1979, five GAZ-66 trucks, 13 trucks, six trailers, and one UAZ-69; six passenter cars; and one locomotive. Approximately 75 personnel were assembled near the passenger cars. In addition, at least 12 BMD (two probable) were observed at nearby Riga Army Barracks Ropazi Na-26 No airborne training was observed in this area on The activity observed on had terminated by	25X1 25X1 25X1	nnel were assembled near the passenger cars. erved at nearby Riga Army Barracks Ropazi observed in this area on The 25X1 25X1
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oreviously unobserved. No airborne-related training activity or deployment has been reported breviously in the Riga area.  2. (S/D) At least one BMD-equipped airborne regiment was bivouacked at 57-11-00N 024-22-41E (Figure 1). Equipment included five confirmed and at least six probable new variant BMD hirborne amphibious combat vehicles, ten BMD M-1979, 37 GAZ-66 trucks, 12 trucks, four trailers, and 116 tents (two large, seven medium, and 107 squad-size). The new BMD variant (Figure 2)		nent observed on the standard BMD and from icle's main armament could not be determined, the standard BMD.  Lets were immediately north of the regimental est launchers, fifteen 122mm howitzers D-30, there deployed in battery. At least 26 GAZ-66 un battalion with support elements appeared lage of the training area at 57-10-49N 024-19-
1. (S/D) Elements of an airborne division, consisting of at least one BMD-equipped air- porne regiment and divisional artillery assets, were in the Baltic Military District at Riga Training	25X1	the Baltic Military District at Riga Training At least 11 of the BMD were of a variant activity or deployment has been reported  regiment was bivouacked at 57-11-00N 024- and at least six probable new variant BMD 9, 37 GAZ-66 trucks, 12 trucks, four trailers, uad-size). The new BMD variant (Figure 2)
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